

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing

CARING *Minds*



CARINGMinds

December 2012

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CaringMinds is the annual publication of the UTHealth School of Nursing that celebrates achievements in philanthropy, research, faculty excellence and other areas of interest. For additional copies, please e-mail: David.R.Bates@uth.tmc.edu or call 713.500.2111.



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On the Cover:

THREE GENERATIONS OF NURSES were the honorary PARTNERS Spring Luncheon chairs and lifetime members: (left to right) Mary Plumb Senkel, Louise Cooley and Dr. Susan M. Cooley, Louise and Dr. Denton Cooley’s daughter. (Photo © Gittings, 2012)

“Generations

Greetings from Dean Patricia Starck

As the UTHealth School of Nursing begins to celebrate its 40th Anniversary, I am mindful of how much everything we do here involves building a legacy, while also working toward a better future.

The three-generation nursing lineage of Dr. Denton Cooley’s family is an inspirational example of how one can pass on the heartfelt commitment to caring for others. We believe very much in the compassion and caring aspect of nursing. Behind that, however, is a scientific mind with all of the clinical knowledge that is available today so that our nurses can make the right decisions when it’s critical.

To keep up with the constantly evolving paradigm of health care, we must test new models of care and invest in the research enterprises necessary to achieve the best hope for a healthier future.

In the past year, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) granted reaccreditation to UTHealth School of Nursing’s baccalaureate and master’s degree programs, effective to December 2021. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program, which we initiated in Texas, underwent its first accreditation and received the five-year maximum (to December 2016) for new programs with “no compliance concerns.” UTHealth’s Nurse Anesthesia program also was granted continued accreditation through fall 2021 by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA).

I am very proud that our 2012 M.S.N. Nurse Anesthesia graduates all successfully passed their national certification boards on their first try! The excellence of this program is reflected by its ranking by the 2013 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s *America’s Best Graduate Schools* at No.26 out of 100 programs for Nursing Anesthesia nationwide.

Overall, the UTHealth School of Nursing is ranked at No.21 among 467 master’s programs surveyed by U.S. News & World Report – which maintains our position in the **Top Five Percent** nationally, a distinction we first attained in 2007.

In May 2012 we welcomed the addition of Dr. Susan C. Benedict to our faculty as a professor and Director of Global Health. She will work to expand our international enterprise

of Nurses”

while also being involved in grant writing and research in the field of ethics (where she has particular expertise on issues related to nursing during the Holocaust).

Our faculty recruitment campaign, called “**Star Search Houston**” is seeking senior faculty scholars who will move an established program of research to the UTHealth School of Nursing. We need exceptional senior scholars to develop centers of excellence, mentor faculty and students who are preparing to advance nursing science, and to lead research that will improve health care.

We also are recruiting faculty and staff to support our part in the Graduate Nursing Education (GNE) Demonstration Project recently awarded to Memorial Hermann as one of one five hospitals around the nation that will use federal funding under the Affordable Care Act to increase the number of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) in the Texas Gulf Coast region and nationwide. UTHealth, along with three other area nursing schools, will handle the didactic component, while Memorial Hermann provides clinical training to produce 400 additional nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists over the next four years.

Our Dr. Elda Ramirez has received \$891,611 in a new grant award to expand physician and nurse trainees with expertise in emergency and trauma care. The goal is to increase by 68 the enrollment of emergency and trauma care nursing students before Aug. 31, 2013.

This year, UTHealth and the School of Nursing pledged support to First Lady Michelle Obama’s and Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden’s “Joining Forces” initiative. This nationwide effort makes a broad, coordinated effort to educate the nation’s three-million nurses to meet the unique health needs of service members, veterans, and their families. We are pleased to join this initiative and have already begun finding ways we can enhance the students’ preparation to meet the emerging needs of this special group of citizens.

We continue to grow the School of Nursing’s research centers while also working to offer a seamless academic progression for nursing students to raise their level of education and to increase the number of nurses who are doctorally prepared.

I believe that the students we get at UTHealth are top-notch. Thanks to our hard-working faculty and boosted by significant philanthropic support (see Page 5), they get an outstanding education here. Indeed, where else but the Texas



Medical Center could one get such wonderful clinical training and see so much collaborative research? Many of our alumni – including the president of our Alumni Association, Melisa L. Frisby (B.S.N. Class of 1999) – are experiencing wonderful careers that combine patient care, management and research.

Even as we annually measure our quantitative successes and hone our institutional strategies, I believe we must bear in mind – as demonstrated by Louise Cooley and her daughter, Dr. Susan M. Cooley, as well as by our younger generation of nurses, such as Susan’s daughter Mary Plumb Senkel and PARTNERS Scholar Candice Triulzi (see Page 10) – that committing to the compassionate care of others is a uniquely *personal* calling.

UTHealth and the School of Nursing are 40 years into our mission of delivering innovative solutions that will create the best hope for a healthier future. And we are investing in the *next* 40 years and *more* generations of nurses to come.

Patricia L. Starck

Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., FAAN
Dean, UTHealth School of Nursing
John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor
Huffington Foundation Chair for Nursing Education
Leadership
Senior Vice President for Community Affairs
UTHealth Office for Advancement

December 2012

Pacesetter Grads

Feel Boost in Entry to Nursing Workforce

Since a young age, Katherine McKay and Kathryn Lito have had **aspirations of pursuing a nursing career**. So when they applied to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program at the UTHealth School of Nursing, **they decided to take a different approach** to their education with the new Pacesetter program.

– includes original reporting by UTHealth Office of Advancement

A redesigning of the four-semester B.S.N. curriculum, the Pacesetter track gives students their in-classroom course work, plus an opportunity to work a full-time clinical rotation schedule over 16 weeks during their final semester of school.

McKay and Lito were among the first B.S.N. students accepted into the Pacesetter program for fall 2010 admission. Twenty-eight Pacesetter students graduated in December 2011, including Lito and McKay.

“Another 27 B.S.N. students will finish the Pacesetter curriculum in December 2012, pending successful completion of the exit exam,” said Stephanie Meyers, Ph.D., M.Ed., R.N., director of the Pacesetter program.

This new concept was developed by a task force chaired by UTHealth School of Nursing Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Cathy Rozmus, D.S.N., R.N.

Pacesetter students Kathryn Lito (left) and Kathrine McKay, in the Simulation and Clinical Performance Lab before their December 2011 graduation as part of the first class of the UTHealth School of Nursing Pacesetter Program.





"Our goal was to create an educational experience that will get the student living the life of a nurse while still in nursing school and help develop the strong critical thinking skills demanded by a clinical workplace,"

Cathy Rozmus, D.S.N., R.N.

"I selected the Pacesetter program because when it was presented to us, the more focused and steady route seemed to fit my work habits and personality a lot better," said McKay. In their final semester of the program and nearing a December graduation, the students felt the Pacesetter option was giving them an enhanced perspective of what it takes to work as a full-time nurse.

Rozmus hopes the more intense clinical experience in the Pacesetter track also helps produce a more "job-ready" B.S.N. graduate.

"The program has given me a better idea of what direction in nursing I want to take," said Lito. "The opportunity to experience the pace of the different units on a consistent basis has helped me."

Thanks to clinical partners such as the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System (where McKay and Lito now are employed as nurses), the Pacesetters have endured 12-hour work shifts, experienced continuity of care with patients and become acquainted with the hospital's system of care. In addition, students have had the opportunity to work in a variety of nursing settings, such as in local schools and community settings, and OB-GYN, high-acute and pediatric nursing units.

In a typical nursing school curriculum, the student might not get any continuity-of-care experience and receive brief, limited contact with each hospital's system of care, policies, charting methods, etc.

"I've been able to connect with patients and follow them throughout the course of their treatment, whereas students not in the program may be at a different unit each day of their clinical rotations," said Lito.

In addition, clinical preceptors within each unit serve as mentors who are able to address any concerns or questions the students may have during their shift. "Our preceptors have been very valuable to the experience because we get to observe them working, as well as get feedback on what we are doing," said McKay. "The program really fosters a mentorship environment."

Rozmus and Meyers are observing and assessing the Pacesetter students to compare the new approach to the traditional track. Thus far, students are pleased with the route they selected and feel prepared.

"We have noticed that Pacesetter students have been very supportive of each other and want everyone to be successful," said Meyers. "Overall, the Pacesetter students are successful academically, 100 percent of the December 2011 Pacesetter graduates passed the NCLEX, and have quickly adjusted to their role as RNs responsible for direct patient care. They are productive staff members in a variety of areas including ICU, OR, Women's Services, and Neonatal ICU."

She and Rozmus will continue to track the students after graduation to assess their competency, both from their perspective and from evaluations by the managers/preceptors.

"The Pacesetter program is a win-win for everybody and, potentially, a national model for new educational approaches to addressing the nationwide nursing shortage," said School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N.

A third cohort of 60 Pacesetter students started in fall 2012.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cathy Rozmus lets her hair down with two-time national ballroom dancing champion and event host Lester Smith at the 2011 PARTNERS Membership Coffee. She has been named first holder of the new PARTNERS Professorship.



UTHealth-UH Dual Bachelors Program for First-Time Students Speeds Nursing Education, Partners for High Quality

A new dual-degree program announced in April 2012 allows students entering the University of Houston (UH) to earn credit hours toward both a bachelor's degree from UH and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing. Program participants should be able to complete both degrees within five years.

Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., dean of the UTHealth School of Nursing, said the partnership is designed to address an urgent, ongoing need in health care by encouraging more baccalaureate-prepared nurses. "By recruiting interested students at UH, our school benefits from a pool of high-quality B.S.N. applicants here in the Houston area," she said. "And the students potentially will benefit from a seamless transition to the nursing profession resulting from our two institutions working together."

Under the new agreement, first-time-in-college students in the UH College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) will have the new option of taking a three-year pre-nursing curriculum (at least 90 semester credit hours). The nursing prerequisite courses will apply toward a UH bachelor's degree.

"We are very pleased to be working with the UTHealth School of Nursing to provide our students with an opportunity to receive a bachelor's degree in nursing," said UH CLASS Dean John W. Roberts. "This collaboration recognizes the value of the liberal arts in preparing students for careers in professional fields, as well as the quality of student preparation in the sciences at the University of Houston."

After completing 30 semester credit hours at UH, participants meeting the program requirements must declare a pre-nursing dual-degree major within CLASS. After earning

75 credit hours, program participants will be advised to take a designated nursing admission examination and to apply for admission to the School of Nursing as a dual-degree applicant.

UTHealth School of Nursing's Director of Clinical and Special Programs Stephanie E. Meyers, Ph.D., M.Ed., R.N., will be a coordinator and liaison of the dual-degree program.

"This program is designed for pre-licensure students, and they must begin at UH as a freshman," said Meyers, who is a UH Honors College graduate. "Streamlining the two degree plans will provide for an efficient educational path that provides a strong foundation in liberal arts and natural sciences."

UTHealth will reserve a percentage of spots available during each admissions cycle for dual-degree program participants. If selected, they will be granted priority admission based on cumulative grade point average (GPA), prerequisite science GPA and scores on the nursing admission examination.

The first UH Dual Degree students could begin arriving at the School of Nursing in fall 2013, with larger numbers

expected in summer or fall 2014.

"I've been quite busy with recruitment activities over the last year and there is *much* interest in the program and greater exposure for UTHealth in general," reported Meyers. "The UH Honors College is starting an honors program in health professions in spring 2013 that will include a variety of pre-health professions students, such as the M.D., R.N., Pharmacy, Optometry and D.D.S. degrees. The idea is to provide a support network for these students, but also professional program advisement and professional networking."

For information on how to enroll, visit <http://www.uh.edu/class/departments/nursing/>.



Graduation Coach Linda M. Brown, Ph.D., (far left) with Director of Clinical and Special Programs Stephanie Meyers, Ph.D., and Assistant Director of Admissions and Recruitment Diana Pressley, M.Ed., staff a busy

UTHealth SCHOOL OF NURSING

By the Numbers



faculty & staff **139**

13 Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) on the faculty

10,610
Continuing Education (C.E.) contact hours awarded

operating budget coming portion of the FY 2012 from state appropriations **39%**

BSN STUDENT RETENTION RATE 88%

99%

pass rate for 2012 BSN grads on NCLEX-RN certification exam

enrollment **956** degree students in fall 2012

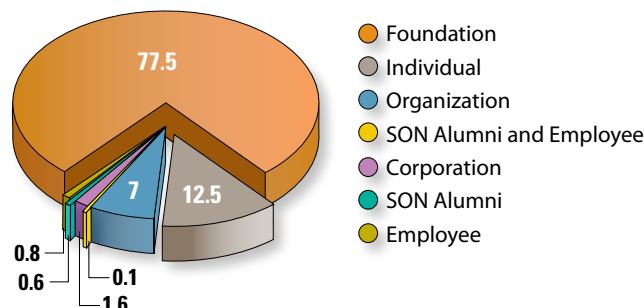
425
graduate students (104 are doctoral candidates)

\$5.7million
in undergraduate scholarships awarded

Accomplishments in philanthropic support

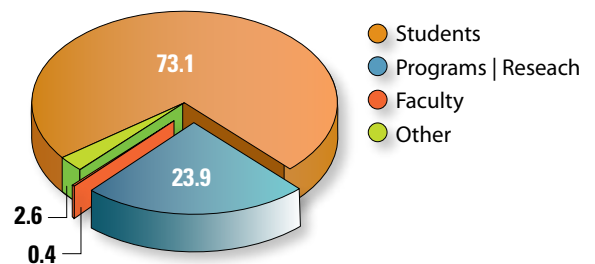
The School of Nursing launched a new accelerated graduate-level program, thanks to a combined philanthropic gift of \$950,000, which will help prepare much-needed primary care providers to ultimately improve the overall health of Houston-area residents [see Page 12]. In FY 2012, the School of Nursing received a total of \$3,305,791 in cash gifts, including: \$1,443,717.27 in new commitments; \$1,328,661 in endowment revenues (corpus donations and interest income); and \$533,412.73 in pledge payments. This represents a 55.1 percent increase in total cash gifts, compared to the previous fiscal year.

School of Nursing Sources of Funding
Percentages for fiscal year 2012



New commitments (new pledges and new gifts) to the UTHealth School of Nursing totaled **\$1,443,717.27** in fiscal year 2012. The School received **461 gifts** from 375 individuals, foundations, corporations, employees and alumni.

School of Nursing Areas of Support
Percentages for fiscal year 2012



Gifts that the School of Nursing received from various donors were designated to support: students, programs, faculty and other needs.

PARTNERS Spring Luncheon Salutes

The 18th annual **PARTNERS Spring Luncheon** at the River Oaks Country Club on April 27, 2012 honored “**Generations of Nurses**” by recognizing all of the PARTNERS board members who are nurses or former nurses. PARTNERS Board chair **Judi McGee** recognized as honorary luncheon chairs three women in the family of legendary heart surgeon Denton Cooley, M.D. – his wife, **Louise Cooley**; daughter **Susan M. Cooley, Ph.D., R.N.**, vice president for clinical services for RediClinic; and Susan’s daughter **Mary Plumb Senkel, B.S.N., R.N.**, who later graduated from the school’s Master of Science in Nursing program. **All three are nurses and lifetime members of PARTNERS.**



In an eight-minute tribute video produced by Will LeBlanc and CASABLANCA Productions, the three Cooley Family nurses reflected on the profession as they each have known it.

“In our day, we didn’t have all of these machines and things that help monitor patients,” recalled Louise Cooley. “We just had antibiotics coming on the scene, so we didn’t really have all of the medicines.”

“Today, nurses have to know all of the technology. They need to know all of the physiology, pharmacology – it is a very complex field – and I can’t think of one that is more rewarding,” said Louise’s daughter, Susan Cooley. “Everyone is working in tandem, and the nurse is usually the person who has the complete picture of the patient.”

Susan’s daughter, Mary Plumb Senkel, explained how she had started out as an Art History major until realizing that she “needed to be doing something to help people and be working with people.” She switched in her junior year to a pre-nursing curriculum, surprising her mother – who “was completely floored” that Mary had decided to be a third-generation nurse.

Naomi Judd Shares Characteristics of a Survivor

“Getting my R.N. was the smartest and best thing I’ve ever done in my life,” Naomi Judd said during her keynote presentation at the 2012 Spring Luncheon. Judd, who is an acclaimed entertainer, hepatitis C survivor and a former registered nurse, engaged the delighted audience with a mock reality

show approach filled with personal anecdotes. “I’ll tell you my story, so maybe you can figure out yours,” she said.

Judd outlined “Eight Characteristics of a Survivor,” point by point, often eliciting comments and laughter from the nearly 450 luncheon attendees. “When women come together, I feel like we could raise up this building – such energy!” she said. “We can all overcome our personal ‘ground zeroes,’ whatever they are that test us!”

First known to the world as half of country music’s mother/daughter duo, The Judds, Naomi Judd has become a New York Times best-selling author, motivational speaker and reality TV series star. During



**SCHOOL OF NURSING DEAN
PATRICIA L. STARCK VISITS WITH
2011-12 PARTNERS CHAIR JUDI MCGEE
AND GUEST SPEAKER NAOMI JUDD.**

her heartfelt, informal presentation, Judd offered special thanks to Drs. Blair and Rita Justice, acknowledging: “You changed my life.”

Blair Justice, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of psychology at The University of Texas School of Public Health and the author of several books, including the 1988 classic *Who Gets Sick: How Beliefs,*

2013 PARTNERS SPRING LUNCHEON “Share the Care”

- Date:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013
Location: The River Oaks Country Club
Speaker: Cody Unser, founder of the First Step Foundation to enhance awareness of Transverse Myelitis
MC: Ernie Manouse, host/producer on HoustonPBS
Honoree: Mrs. Jan Duncan, founder of the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute

"GENERATIONS OF NURSES"



PARTNERS SPRING LUNCHEON KEYNOTER NAOMI JUDD ASKS, "WHY DO THE PROFESSIONALS SAY WE'RE SO DEPRESSED AND MISERABLE?"
(PHOTO BY KIM COFFMAN)

Moods, and Thoughts Affect Your Health, which was one of the first to give the public an understanding of how beliefs and attitudes affect the body. His wife, Dr. Rita Justice – who was a guest at the luncheon – has been his frequent co-author and collaborator, as well as a psychologist in private practice in Houston. (Over the years, the Justices also have been regular contributors to the university's *HealthLeader* online wellness magazine.)

Master of ceremonies Kevin Kline, a morning co-host on Houston's The New 93Q radio station, briefly gave a

history of the 18-years-old PARTNERS organization ("Promoting Advancement Resources to Nursing Education, Research and Students"), which now holds a \$1.5-million endowment to support its projects and recently awarded its 100th full nursing scholarship. Kline also praised the "on-the-front-lines nature of nursing," based on his own family history and charity work with pediatric cancer.

Major Underwriter of the event was the John P. McGovern Foundation, and additional underwriters were San

Antonio, Texas-based H-E-B and PARTNERS board member Sheri Henriksen.

The Reverend Dr. Linda Christians, executive pastor at St. Luke's United Methodist Church – and also a former nurse – opened the luncheon with an invocation.

"Getting my R.N. was the smartest and best thing I've ever done in my life," Naomi Judd said during her keynote presentation.

Net proceeds from the event benefit programs to support nursing education, research and student services for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing.

"If you're not a nurse, I will guarantee that there will be a time in your life when you will need a nurse," said honoree Susan Cooley. "Join PARTNERS today so that you can help make sure of access to the best nurse possible when that time comes. I don't know about you, but the nurse I want at my bedside is a UTHouston-educated nurse!"

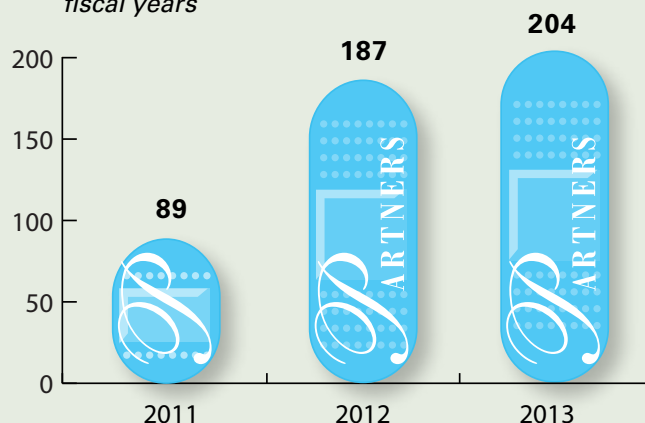
For information about becoming a member or supporting PARTNERS, email: partners@uth.tmc.edu.

PARTNERS Memberships on the Rise, Setting New Goals

PARTNERS memberships have increased steadily in the past three years. In FY 2012, memberships have more than doubled.

Under the leadership of current chair Carolyn Moody Drake, PARTNERS has registered an increase of close to eight percent in memberships. PARTNERS counts 204 members at the beginning of FY 2013 and our publication time.

PARTNERS Memberships fiscal years



UT★Health Services Expands Care for Patients, Sets Records

Since the inception of the University of Texas Health Services (UTHS) in February 1990 as part of the faculty practice, it has proved a new model of comprehensive care, while also offering outstanding clinical service, educational opportunities for students and research opportunities for the School of Nursing's faculty.

UTHS now administers four primary care/occupational health clinics, including an on-site wellness center for the family-owned Grocers Supply Company, which has a patient population of more than 3,860 covered individuals. Its primary nurse-managed clinic at 7000 Fannin Street, Suite 1620, is located in the heart of the Texas Medical Center.

During FY 2012, UTHS held 40 direct contracts with different companies and organizations to which it delivered a multitude of services, involving more than 20 School of Nursing faculty members. Staff logged nearly 12,000 patient visits, not including on-site patients seen under contract with local private-sector businesses.

"Emphasis on occupational and primary care at the worksite is now in vogue in the business world," said UTHS Director Thomas A. Mackey, Ph.D. "Fortunately, the UTHealth School of Nursing developed this product many years ago and is well-versed in the delivery model. We see great opportunity in the

future to expand clinical sites throughout greater Houston in the next one to five years."

UTHS operates with a 10 to 15 percent positive financial margin and no debt. "Given the healthcare environment of reimbursement reductions and increased expenditures related to running a healthcare business in an academic environment this is remarkable," said Mackey. "Our net collection rate of 96 percent is outstanding."

In FY 2012, UT Health Services added podiatric care services and became a certified diabetes education center – which Mackey called "huge milestones in our development."

Offering Diabetes Self Management –

More than 25 million adults and children in the United States are living with diabetes – and, if trends continue, one in three American adults could have diabetes by 2050, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

"Four years ago, I decided there was a significant need for a diabetes education program here at UTHealth – specifically, I wanted UTHS to take the lead in developing not only diabetes education but a full diabetes center of excellence," explained Mackey, who also is the nursing school's associate dean for practice and the PARTNERS Professor of Clinical Nursing.

UT Health Services Registered Dietician Shannon Weston (right) consults with a patient in the clinic at 7000 Fannin St., Suite 1620.





Board-certified podiatrist David S. Wolf, D.P.M. (pictured), wants everyone to have “happy feet.” He is available at the UTHS clinic to help with a full range of foot care needs by calling 713-500-3261 to schedule an appointment.

In response to the growing number of diabetics, UT Health Services has launched an accredited Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) program to help patients struggling with a new diagnosis or just looking for ways to improve blood glucose control. This program is unique, because in addition to DSME, diabetic patients can see a podiatrist or a registered dietitian at UTHS to assist with more complicated problems. This team approach helps patients to achieve blood-sugar goals while minimizing the complications from high blood sugar.

“We want to provide residents of Houston and surrounding areas who have diabetes with support and proper knowledge on taking care of themselves,” said Laura Rooney, D.N.P., a Certified Diabetes Educator and coordinator of patient care activities at UTHS. She is also an assistant professor of clinical nursing at the UTHealth School of Nursing.

The purpose of DSME is to educate diabetics and their families about the disease. Program enrollees will learn more about the disease process in order to reduce future complications from diabetes. “After all, knowledge is power and DSME allows for control of their condition,” said Rooney.

The program, which is certified by the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE), focuses on self-management. Enrollees learn material such as seven healthy behaviors to control, cope and reduce complications from diabetes. Healthy eating and the importance of being active also are emphasized, reinforced by UTHS registered dietitian Shannon Weston, M.P.H.

“The DSME program will serve as an extension of the information healthcare providers give their patients,” said Rooney. “In addition to the healthy behaviors, we reinforce other areas that should be monitored such as foot care, eye exams and regular blood-sugar testing.”

Board-certified podiatrist promotes “happy feet”

Among all people with diabetes, 25 percent will develop a diabetic foot infection. Peripheral Vascular Disease and Neuropathy (burning and numbness in feet) are major contributing factors to diabetic foot ulcers. Patients who develop an infected diabetic foot ulcer have a 55 times greater risk of hospitalization, and 85 percent of lower limb amputations in patients with diabetes are preceded by ulceration.

Board-certified podiatrist David S. Wolf, D.P.M., brings more than 35 years of experience to the clinic, where he diagnoses and treats common and complex foot-related issues (particularly diabetes-related problems).

“We are committed to offering the latest and most effective technologies and procedures presently available to the podiatric profession – and we welcome entire families to our practice,” said Wolf.

Nurse practitioners provide most of the care at UTHS. A physician is available for consultation or to meet any additional medical needs. For more information, go online to: www.uthealthservices.com.



Five-year-old Candice's "When I Grow Up" drawing draped with her silver B.S.N. nurse's pin and Candice Triulzi, PARTNERS scholar, last summer.



When I Grow Up – A UTHealth Nursing Student's Story

Most little kids, full of imagination and hope, believe they know their future, but Candice Triulzi actually *drew* hers – in crayon!

One day in **kindergarten**, a teacher's workbook assignment was: "Children draw and discuss pictures of what they want to be when they grow up." Five-year-old Candice Burley produced a drawing of a blond nurse in a blue smock with arms upraised while tending to babies and tiny patients in little beds. Now, 22 years later, that childhood drawing literally has come to life ...

Candice today is immersed in the Nursing Leadership and Administration master's degree curriculum. "I am *loving* the M.S.N. program," she said with her characteristic enthusiasm.

She also is working full time in the neonatal intensive care unit at Memorial Hermann Memorial City.

"I knew I would love nursing but certain aspects came as a surprise to me," she said. "Because of our unique roles as nurses, it's amazing to see the relationship that we have with patients and their families that you would ordinarily never have with a stranger."

However, Candice – a 2012 B.S.N. graduate of UTHealth School of Nursing – did not go directly to the nursing profession. Before she started nursing school full time in May 2011, she had been a global account executive for the InterCall telecommunications company, where she consulted with Fortune 500 companies for two and a half years.

She graduated from the University of Miami in 2007, where she was an Honor Roll student, Broadcast Journalism Senior of the Year and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society.

With a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism and Economics, Candice managed and sold television advertising campaigns for business clients at Fox Television in Houston and CBS in Miami.

She remembers "just working and going through life" until one day realizing that she wanted to devote her life to helping others, and that she needed a major change to do that.

“My husband was stung by a wasp and had an anaphylactic reaction,” Candice explained. “I remember watching the ER nurse treat him in such a calm demeanor in the midst of an emergency – it was amazing! That may have sparked the fire.”

A few months after that ER visit, Candice started volunteering at The Methodist Hospital and understood that nursing was her true calling.

The eventual career change presaged by that childhood drawing required Candice to take “about 13 classes” to get her nursing school prerequisites, six of them in one semester while she also was “working 50 hours a week.”

When she finally entered the accelerated second-degree B.S.N. program (or Bacc2), Candice applied for and received a full PARTNERS Scholarship, which she said “is allowing me to go into a career that’s going to help people and that’s going to impact future generations!”

At the UTHealth School of Nursing, Candice made Dean’s List and served as treasurer of the Student Government Organization.

“The significance of the PARTNERS scholarship for me has been not just monetary, but also encouragement that there is a group of people behind me saying ‘We believe in you!’ This mindset has allowed me to give myself 200 percent to patients on a daily basis,” she said.

One of her favorite student experiences was her community nursing clinical under Mary Ellen Ross, Dr.PH, M.S.N., R.N., associate professor of clinical nursing in the Department of Nursing Systems. She and her fellow B.S.N. students visited Fort Bend Gardens apartments in Rosenberg, which offers independent living for low-income seniors.

After their health assessment determined that depression was a major problem in their community, the students decided to implement group-based activities for the residents to increase socialization. One day in July 2012, they staged a “Senior Pajama Party” where everyone wore pajamas, danced to music from the seniors’ era and encouraged the residents to get to know each other. “Even Dr. Ross wore her pajamas!” recalled Candice. “We had a blast and so did they!”

A Michigan native, Candice now lives in Fort Bend County. Excelling in her studies has been driven by Candice’s determination “to become not only the first person in my family to go to college, but the first to also go on to receive a master’s degree.”

“Eventually, I see myself in a management position in a hospital,” Candice said. “I have an understanding of business – that’s what I did before I got into nursing – but I have this love of nursing. So, if I can combine both of them together – I’m thinking that’s the best of both worlds!”

As a B.S.N. student, Candice Triulzi was the UTHealth School of Nursing recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship as the Outstanding Student Nurse selected by The Methodist Hospital. With her at the April 2012 reception is Dr. Stephanie Meyers.

“I had the privilege of nominating and presenting Candice with the Outstanding Student Nurse Award given by The Methodist Hospital, as well as having her in class. I have also worked with Candice on projects outside of the classroom and she is amazing!” said Stephanie Meyers, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor of clinical nursing in the Department of Family Health. “I met her parents and her husband, and she is surrounded by a warm, supportive family – so, it is no surprise that she does what she does!”

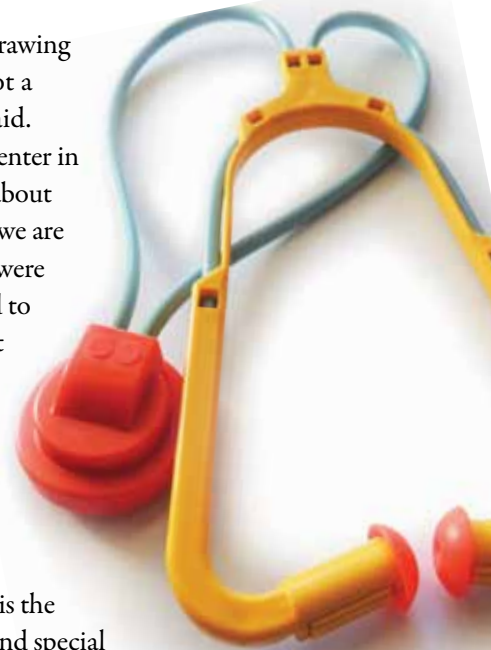
A framed copy of the picture she drew as a little girl became a thank-you gift to the PARTNERS organization after Candice received a second full PARTNERS Scholarship, this time for the M.S.N. program.

“For me, my childhood drawing represents that nursing is not a job, it is a calling,” Triulzi said. “Whatever path you take to enter in this field or whatever roundabout way you may get to nursing, we are here because this is what we were meant to do! I was so blessed to receive PARTNERS support for the program.”

“Candice exemplifies the ideal qualities of a nursing student and future nursing leader. She is thoughtful, considerate and energetic,” continued Meyers, who also is the School’s director of clinical and special programs. “Her passion for nursing has been life-long, and will allow her to succeed as a nurse and a nursing leader in caring for our tiniest babies.”

“One day, in about 30 years,” Candice said, laughing. “I’d like to be a Nurse Manager or Nurse Director, where I can be an advocate for intra-partum women, their babies and their families.”

No one who knows Candice Triulzi as a student or as a nurse – who has seen how that childhood drawing has become reality – can doubt her determination to shape the future.



DONORS SUPPORT START OF NEW ACCELERATED FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM

A combined philanthropic gift of \$950,000 has allowed the UTHealth School of Nursing to launch a new accelerated graduate-level program to prepare much-needed primary care providers to ultimately improve the overall health of Houston-area residents.

The goal of the program is to provide financial support needed to encourage more nursing students to complete the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program with a focus on becoming a family nurse practitioner (or FNP).

“Now that it is fully funded, the new program will efficiently produce 14 highly-qualified FNP’s, each of whom will

improve the availability of health care in our community,” said UTHealth School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N. “Texas is third from the bottom in the United States for having enough primary care providers to adequately meet the ratio of expected new patients receiving health coverage for the first time in 2014.”

Challenge met with local philanthropy –

In early 2012, a fundraising initiative by the school’s development office reached out to local foundations. The John S. Dunn Research Foundation promised to donate \$350,000 if the nursing school raised \$300,000.

Both the Cullen Trust for Health Care (\$300,000) and the John P. McGovern Foundation (\$150,000) helped with the matching funds.

“At a time when major healthcare conversations are taking place, and with the current shortage of primary care providers, patients will turn to nurse practitioners for their family’s primary health care,” said Board of Trustees Chair Beth Robertson. “We at the Cullen Trust for Health Care are proud to support this much-needed program within our community.”

The Cullen Trust for Health Care also has helped to fund the nursing school’s innovative Accelerated Ph.D. Program, which is creating more nursing faculty and

Accelerated Family Nurse Practitioner Program Back row (left - right): Dr. Eileen R. Giardino, co-track director; Dr. Robert G. Hanks, co-track director; Lakee Smith; Dr. Joanne V. Hickey, DNP Program coordinator; Bilal Elhouchi; Tracy Lobo; Margaret White; Steve Fung; Monique Green; Michael Potosky; Ashley Huynh; Dean Patricia L. Starck, and Sydnee Lucas. Front row (seated, left - right): Stella Namuwonge; Ofonime Awakessien; Sydney Thompson; Elena Chow, and Maria Medina.



thus helping to increase nursing school enrollment. (In 2010, Christina Nunez, M.S.N., R.N., was named the Cullen Trust for Health Care Scholar, and she continues to work towards her Ph.D. and the stipulated three years of service as a faculty member at a nursing school in the Texas Gulf Coast region.)

The Dunn Foundation, seeing the success of UTHHealth's fundraising, agreed to match the additional funds of \$150,000 in excess of the initial challenge, which brought the donations total to \$950,000.

"Texas and elsewhere does not have an adequate number of healthcare professionals, and this is a growing problem for our country," said Dunn Foundation President J. Dickson Rogers. "Training Family Nurse Practitioners is a viable and cost-saving method to help alleviate this issue. The John S. Dunn Foundation through its Medical Education Mission is and has been pleased with the results produced by the UTHHealth School of Nursing."

Accelerating degree completion –

To encourage nursing students to earn advanced degrees in a shorter time and at a younger age, the UTHHealth School of Nursing is providing full scholarships (tuition and fees) to 14 candidates entering the M.S.N. program and then the D.N.P. program with the goal of becoming family nurse practitioners. In addition to these scholarships, the grant funding provides stipends of \$32,000 each to offset the living expenses incurred while the master's degree students are enrolled full time.

The M.S.N. curriculum includes 41 total credits over 16 months, while completion of the D.N.P. program requires an additional 43 credits (36 months at part-time study). It traditionally takes nine years – four undergraduate and five at the graduate level – to train a family nurse practitioner with the D.N.P. degree.

"We hope to accelerate these graduate studies to facilitate production of these important healthcare providers and

significantly increase the number of D.N.P. graduates with an FNP focus," said Joanne V. Hickey, Ph.D., R.N., who will oversee the new FNP-DNP program. "We are very excited about this fabulous opportunity to contribute to the healthcare needs of the state for primary care providers."

Two faculty members in the Department of Family Health – Eileen R. Giardino, Ph.D., R.N., and Robert G. Hanks, Ph.D., R.N. – will be co-directors of the new Accelerated FNP-DNP Program.

Selected scholars aim for doctoral degree –

The cohort of 14 qualified students started their master's degree curriculum in fall 2012.

The average age of the Accelerated FNP-DNP scholars is just over 30 (the youngest is 24, the oldest is 39). Most were born in the U.S.A. – but others come from Canada, Nigeria, Lebanon and Uganda. Half of the group earned B.S.N.s at University of Texas System institutions.

"They all have Basic Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support and Advance Cardiac Life Support – and many have numerous publications and awards and even military experience," said Candiance Duplessis, administrative coordinator of the DNP program. "They are an awesome, diverse group!"

Growing need for FNP's –

Family nurse practitioners are trained to promote health and prevent disease through comprehensive health care and education. More and more physician practices are incorporating nurse practitioners to expand the number of patients for whom they can care. Nurse practitioners are also going to places where there is not an on-site physician, but one is accessible for consultation and referral. Four decades of research validate that advanced practice nurse outcomes are comparable to those of primary-care physicians, and that patients are satisfied with this care.

"By a modest estimate, a family nurse practitioner touches the lives of at least

SCHOLARS AND RESPECTIVE DONORS

CULLEN TRUST FOR HEALTH CARE

Bilal Elhouchi

Monique Green

Stella Namuwonge

Margaret White

JOHN S. DUNN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ofonime Awakessien

Elena Chow

Steve Fung

Tracy Lobo

Sydnee Lucas

Maria Medina

Michael Potosky

Lakee Smith

JOHN P. MCGOVERN FOUNDATION

Ashley Huynh

Sydney Thompson

20 to 25 patients a day – so, over the course of a career, these philanthropically-supported students will influence the health and well-being of thousands of people a year," said Starck, who also is the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor of Nursing. "The impact on health care in our community and on the looming crisis in healthcare access would be very significant."

On schedule, this accelerated group will graduate with doctoral degrees in May 2016. "We believe the Accelerated FNP-DNP Program can be used as a model all over the state," Dean Starck said.



Giuseppe Colasurdo, M.D. Appointed Sixth President in UTHealth's 40-Year History

By Meredith Raine, Office of Advancement

Giuseppe Colasurdo, M.D., a pediatrician, researcher and leader who has served at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) for 17 years, was officially appointed president of UTHealth on Oct. 22, 2012 by The University of Texas System Board of Regents.

Colasurdo, the Alkek-Williams Distinguished Chair at UTHealth, had served as interim president since April 1, 2011 and becomes the sixth president since the university was founded in 1972. He succeeds Larry R. Kaiser, M.D., who stepped down to lead the Temple University Health System.

"It is critically important to have extraordinary leadership at our health institutions as the landscape of healthcare in our country undergoes transformational change," said UT System Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa. "Dr. Colasurdo is an exemplary educator, administrator and clinician and I have no doubt he is the right leader at the right time."

Now celebrating its 40th anniversary as Houston's health university, UTHealth educates more health care professionals than any other health-related institution in Texas. There are more than 5,000 students and 5,000 faculty and staff members studying and working within UTHealth's schools of biomedical informatics, biomedical sciences, dentistry, medicine, nursing and public health, its psychiatric hospital and its central administration.

"It is a great honor to serve this university and community as president," Colasurdo said. "I look forward to working with the exceptional students, faculty and staff members in all of our six schools, and with our many partners across the State of Texas and beyond, in the coming years."

He likened UTHealth to Memorial Hermann's Life Flight program, which, under the direction of UTHealth's

James H. "Red" Duke, M.D., started in 1976 with one helicopter and rapidly grew to serve what is now not only the busiest, but also one of the best, trauma centers in the country.

"Like Life Flight, UTHealth has experienced tremendous growth," Colasurdo said. "Today, we have amazing talent, depth in expertise and remarkable momentum. Our programs are truly flying high."

"As our university continues to grow, the UTHealth brand will be synonymous with excellence and innovation across the spectrum of health care," Colasurdo added.

Julius Glickman, chair of the UTHealth Development Board, said the strength of Colasurdo's leadership has been proven time and again – from his ability to recruit and retain the best faculty members, to his efforts to strengthen hospital partnerships and expand quality clinical care services, to his commitment to excellence in education.

"We are fortunate to have him at the helm. This is a gifted man, and with Giuseppe Colasurdo, UTHealth is positioned to have an even greater impact on this community and the larger health care field," Glickman said.

Colasurdo became dean and H. Wayne Hightower Distinguished Professor in the Medical Sciences of The University of Texas Medical School, part of UTHealth, Sept. 1, 2007. He will continue to serve as dean until a national search for his successor is completed.



Born in Italy

Born in Morrone Del Sannio, Italy, Colasurdo completed his undergraduate education at The Liceo Scientifico “Galileo Galilei” in Pescara, Italy. He earned his medical degree summa cum laude from G. D’Annunzio School of Medicine in Chieti, Italy. In 1988, determined to achieve the best medical training in the world, Colasurdo came to the United States.

A leader/physician

Colasurdo joined the UTHealth Medical School’s faculty in 1995 as an assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine. He became the division head in 1997 and began directing the fellowship training program in pediatric pulmonary medicine in 2001.

He was named chair of the Department of Pediatrics in 2005.

Board certified in Pediatric Pulmonology and licensed to practice medicine in Italy, Texas and Colorado, Colasurdo has hospital privileges at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital, and MD Anderson Cancer Center. He is the CEO and president of UT Physicians, the medical practice of the UTHealth Medical School, one of the fastest growing academic medical practices in the country.

The physician-in-chief at Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital and the David R. Park Professor in Pediatric Medicine, Colasurdo specializes in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection, pediatric asthma, and other lung disorders

in infants and children. As president, he will continue to treat patients.

“I am very happy the Board of Regents has selected Dr. Colasurdo to lead UT Health Science Center – Houston,” said Kenneth I. Shine, M.D., executive vice chancellor for health affairs at UT System and chair of the presidential search advisory committee. We believe Dr. Colasurdo has the leadership and vision to propel the institution to accomplish even greater goals, driving it to be the best among its national peers.”

Melisa L. Frisby, M.S.N., R.N., president of the School of Nursing Alumni Association and a member of the B.S.N. Class of 1999, was the only nursing representative appointed to the presidential search advisory committee.



Senior BSN student Kayla Ramdhani, performing hearing acuity screenings at Mendel Elementary School in the Aldine ISD. “Students enjoy doing community nursing out in the schools because they are able to apply the health promotion and protection concepts they learned in class,” says Dr. Martina R. Gallagher. “Also, these screenings with children at the beginning of the school year are crucial to ensuring that the kids are ready to learn.”



Dean Starck Named to UT Academy of Health Science Education, Marcus Honored by Regents for Outstanding Teaching

School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., FAAN, was the only UTHealth honoree out of 12 distinguished scholars elected in 2012 to The University of Texas Academy of Health Science Education (UTAHSE), a statewide organization of faculty members recognized for their teaching excellence. She joined six other UTHealth School of Nursing faculty members already inducted to the prestigious academy during a July 11, 2012 reception and dinner in Austin.

At the same awards dinner, the inaugural health science faculty recipients of the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (ROTA) were honored. Marianne T. Marcus, Ed.D., R.N., the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor of Addiction Nursing, as well as assistant dean and chair of the Department of Nursing Systems, was one of 10 UTHealth faculty members who received the University of Texas System's highest honor in recognition of their performance in the classroom and laboratory.

Hailed as "Dean of Deans" –

"The entire UTHealth community joins me in congratulating our 'dean of deans' on this well-deserved honor. Dr. Starck is a true pioneer who has made many invaluable contributions to the field of nursing throughout her career," said UTHealth President Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D. "She is also an outstanding leader and mentor, and we are so grateful for all that she has done – and continues to do – for this university."

In 2011, Dean Starck took on additional leadership responsibilities as Senior Vice President for Community Affairs, in which she works with the Office of Advancement to raise UTHealth's profile and enhance philanthropic giving to the university.

Among her recent innovations are the "Patricia L. Starck Accelerated Ph.D. Scholars Program" (named in her honor) and the "Pacesetter" B.S.N. degree option (see Page 2).

Dean Starck, the Huffington Foundation Endowed Chair in Nursing Education Leadership and the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor, received her doctorate from the



Dean Starck receiving her 2012 member's UTAHSA medal on stage with Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D. (left), Regent Stillwell and Chairman Powell.

University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Nursing in 1979. In 2010, she was named one of “60 Visionary Leaders” of UAB’s 11,000 graduates. In 2008, she marked her 25th anniversary as dean of UTHealth’s nursing school.

Marcus Excels in Classroom –

“I seek to convey to my students the tremendous privilege and responsibility our profession has to bring evidenced-based skills and compassionate attitudes to our patients,” ROTA recipient Marcus said. “A major focus of my teaching continues to be increasing interprofessional curricula related to substance use disorders, promoting prevention, screening and treatment for this important health problem.”

The Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Awards, established in 2008 and among the most competitive in the nation, recognize faculty

members at UT System institutions who have demonstrated dedication to innovation and advancing excellence. The 2012 inductees marked the first year that the Regents’ teaching awards have been conferred on faculty at UT System health institutions.

Each chosen faculty member receives a \$25,000 award and are showcased on the UT System website at: <http://www.utsystem.edu/teachingawards/2012/Health/all.htm>.

“These awards demonstrate the Board’s commitment to recognize outstanding faculty members for their exceptional performance and innovation in the classroom,” Regents’

Chairman Gene Powell said. “The Board is very pleased to offer these teaching excellence awards for the first time to faculty members at our outstanding comprehensive academic health science centers.”

Marcus and Dean Starck are among the seven UT Academy of Health Science Education members on the School of Nursing’s faculty, which also includes: **Vaunette P. Fay**, Ph.D., professor of clinical nursing in the Department of Nursing Systems and director of Continuing Education; **Deanna E. Grimes**, Dr.PH., professor in the Department of Nursing Systems; **Janet C. Meininger**, Ph.D., holder of the Lee and Joseph Jamail Distinguished Professorship and professor in the Department of Nursing Systems; **Sharon K. Ostwald**, Ph.D., holder of the Isla Carroll Turner Chair in Gerontological Nursing and coordinator of International Programs; and **Geri L. Wood**, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Nursing Systems.

“All of these honorees bring their exemplary scholarship to the classroom, the bedside and the laboratory as to enrich health education in Texas,” said Dr. Kenneth I. Shine, UT System executive vice chancellor for health affairs. “We are very proud of their accomplishments.”

– includes reporting by Andy Heger, Office of Advancement



Dr. Marianne Marcus receiving her ROTA medal from UT System Board of Regents Chairman Gene Powell, July 11, 2012 in Austin.

Students Select Two for 2012 McGovern Outstanding Teacher Awards

“This is a first for the School of Nursing,” said Director of Student Affairs Laurie Rutherford. “And both faculty members are highly deserving of the honor.” Students graduating in May 2012 made two choices for the year’s John P. McGovern Outstanding Teacher Awards. The recipients were announced by Joanna Rice, president of the Student Government Organization, during the annual Awards and Pinning Ceremony.

Students selected Amy O. Calvin, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor of clinical nursing, Department of Acute and Continuing Care, as the undergraduate teacher of the year.

The graduate-level teacher of the year was Eileen R. Giardino, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor of clinical nursing in the Department of Family Health.

Calvin’s students described her with words including “incredible,” “outstanding,” “fair,” “accessible,” as well as “enthusiastic and caring.” She was particularly lauded for her responsiveness and availability to her students.

One of Giardino’s nominators wrote of her: “She is excited about our clinical experiences and opportunities for learning new skills and acquiring new knowledge. By still working in the clinics herself, I think she is able to relate more to the experiences and questions students encounter.”

Students at each of the six UTHealth schools choose a John P. McGovern Outstanding Teacher on the criteria of stimulating curiosity, promoting professional development and contributing to students’ abilities to think creatively. Established in 1984, the awards traditionally are announced at commencement ceremonies and are made possible by an endowment from the John P. McGovern Foundation.

Calvin was nominated in 2011 and both of this year’s winners were candidates for the McGovern Outstanding Teacher Award in 2010.



Amy O. Calvin, Ph.D., R.N.



Eileen R. Giardino, Ph.D., R.N.



Dr. Christine Brosnan, associate professor of clinical nursing, and husband Dr. Patrick Brosnan unveiled a portrait of Christine's sister, endowed scholarship namesake Elaine Elizabeth Barbieri. Pictured at left are her cousin Ann Quinn and husband, Joe.



Admiring the commissioned portrait of Tanya K. Ostwald are the scholarship honoree's father Melvin Ostwald (left) with her mother, SON Professor Emerita Dr. Sharon Ostwald and Tanya's brother Jamel Ostwald (right).



Former home of School of Nursing for 30 years disappears in dust cloud

In just 17 seconds on Jan. 8, 2012, more than 30 years of School of Nursing memories ended in a pile of dust and rubble when the MD Anderson Houston Main Building was imploded around 11:15 a.m.

After more than two years of preparation, dense fog delayed the final demolition by an additional three hours past the planned time of 7:52 a.m. However, by noon, bulldozers and dump trucks were hauling away the building's detritus.

Originally called the Prudential Building when it was completed in 1952, the HMB once was the only skyscraper built outside of downtown Houston. Designed by noted Houston architect Kenneth Franzheim, the 20-story, \$8-million structure was the southwest regional headquarters for The Prudential Insurance Co. of America.

The University of Texas System purchased the 500,000-square-foot building in 1974 for \$18.5 million, officially renaming it the Houston Main Building in 1980. For 30 years, from 1974 until 2004, the HMB was the leased home of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing.

(Photo courtesy of UT MD Anderson Communications.)

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SHARON K. OSTWALD, Ph.D., R.N., FGSA

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KATHLEEN PACE-MURPHY, Ph.D., M.S., GNP, CNS-P/MH

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NIKHIL S. PADHYE, Ph.D.

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BRIDGETTE R. PULLIS, Ph.D., R.N.

Pullis, B. (2011). Perceptions of hospice care among African Americans. *Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing*, 13(5), 281-287.

CATHY L. ROZMUS, D.S.N., R.N.

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SUSAN D. RUPPERT, Ph.D., R.N., ANP-BC, NP-C, FCCM, FAANP

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JENNIFER E. SANNER, Ph.D., R.N.

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RENAE R. SCHUMANN, Ph.D., R.N.

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JING WANG, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N.

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DIANE W. WARDELL, Ph.D., R.N., WHNP-BC

Liendo, N. M., **Wardell, D. W.**, Engebretson, J., & Reininger, B. M. (2011). Victimization and revictimization among women of Mexican descent. *J Obstet Gynecol Neonatal Nurs*, 40(2), 206-214.

NANCY F. WELLER, Dr.PH., M.P.H., M.S., R.N.

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MARY JOE WHITE, Ph.D., R.N.

White, M. J., Gutierrez, A., Davis, K., Olson, R., & McLaughlin, C. (2011). Delegation knowledge and practice among rehabilitation nurses. *Rehabil Nurs*, 36(1), 16-24.

Faculty Research

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Armstrong, T., Gilbert, M. (2008-2013). Collaborative Ependymoma Research Network (CERN). Collaborative Medical Research, LLC. (\$236,166)

Armstrong, T., Gilbert, M. (2008). Gauging Impact of Treatment on Symptoms, Health Related Quality of Life and Neurocognitive Function in Patients with Primary Brain Tumors. Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure (ABCC)/Tug McGraw Foundation. (\$28,860)

Armstrong, T., Wefel, J. (2009-2011). Phase III Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial of Conventional Concurrent Chemoradiation and Adjuvant Temozolomide Plus Bevacizumab Versus Conventional Concurrent Chemoradiation and Adjuvant Temozolomide in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma. American College of Radiology-Radiation Therapy Oncology Group. (\$129,046).

Armstrong, T. (Mentor), Cahill, J. (PhD. Student). (2011-2013) Uncertainty, Symptoms, and Medical Record Access in Glioblastoma Patients. American Cancer Society Fellowship. (\$30,000)

Baun, M. (Mentor), Mann, E. (PhD. Student). (2010-2011). Prediction of Sepsis for the Burn Intensive Care Unit Patient. TriService Nursing Research Program. (\$41,270)

Bergstrom, N., **Rapp, M.P.**, Horn, S. (2007-2011) Pressure Ulcers: A Multi-site RCT in Nursing Facilities. (5 R01 NR009680) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$2,537,614)

Engebretson, J., (Mentor), Moore, M. (PhD student) (2011) How do Black Nulliparous Women Cognitively Construct Birth? Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter (\$2,000).

Frazier, L., McPherson, D. (P.I.) (2006-2011) Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences – BioBank Core. (1 UL1 RR024148) National Institutes of Health/National Center for Research Resources. (\$534,171)

Frazier, L., Boerwinkle, E., Klos, K., Moeller, F.G., Vaughn, W., Henderson-Everhard, M. (2007-2012) Interactions Among Depressive Symptoms and Genetic Influences on Cardiac Outcomes. (1 R01 NR10235) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$2,365,972)

Hanneman, S.K., Gusick, G.M., Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student), Gilman Wachtel, S. (Ph.D. Student), Oldham, S., **Cron, S.** (2005-2009) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study. Society of Critical Care Medicine - Norma J. Shoemaker Nursing Research Award. (\$15,000)

Hanneman, S.K. (Mentor), Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student). (2006-2009) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study and Hemodynamic Sub study. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. (\$10,000)

Marcus, M., (Mentor), Nash, A. (PhD student) (2012) The Alternative Peer Group: What can “winners” from this innovative program teach us about recovery from adolescent substance use disorders? Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter (\$2,000).

Marcus, M., (Mentor), Nash, A. (PhD student) (2012) The Alternative Peer Group: What can “winners” from this innovative program teach us about recovery from adolescent substance use disorders? NAPNAP Foundation (\$2,500).

Meininger, J., (Mentor), Park, E. (PhD student) (2012) Association of Cardiorespiratory Fitness and Adiposity with Inflammatory Biomarkers in Healthy Young Adults. Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter (\$2,000).

Ramirez, E. (2009-2011) Educating Senior Nursing Students in TRAUMA Care Utilizing Simulation. Laerdal Foundation for Acute Medicine (\$15,000).

Sanner, J., Frazier, L., Willerson, J. (P.I.), Boerwinkle, E. (2001-present) TEXGEN: Premature Myocardial Infarction/Family Study. Greater Houston Partnership. (\$200,000)

Sanner, J., Frazier, L., Willerson, J., Boerwinkle, E. (2006-2011). Genetics and Heart Disease. Greater Houston Partnership. (\$1,094,906)

Wardell, D., (Mentor), Tsusaki, R. (PhD student) (2011) Breastfeeding Patterns of Late Preterm and Term Infants in the Early Postnatal Period. Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter (\$2,000).

Endowed Faculty Positions

CHAIR

Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., FAAN
Huffington Foundation Endowed Chair in Nursing Education Leadership

Vacant
Isla Carroll Turner Chair in Gerontological Nursing

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., FAAN
John P. McGovern Distinguished Professorship in Nursing

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Jerrold B. Katz Distinguished Professorship for Nursing Research

Marianne T. Marcus, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN
John P. McGovern Distinguished Professorship in Addiction Nursing

Mara Baun, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN
Lee and Joseph D. Jamail Distinguished Professorship

Janet C. Meininger, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN
Lee and Joseph D. Jamail Distinguished Professorship

Duck-Hee Kang, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN
Lee and Joseph D. Jamail Distinguished Professorship

Terri S. Armstrong, Ph.D., ANP-BC, FAANP
John S. Dunn Distinguished Professorship in Oncology Nursing

Vacant
Bette P. Thomas Distinguished Professorship for Innovative Healthcare Delivery

Vacant
Nancy B. Willerson Distinguished Professorship

PROFESSOR

Nancy Bergstrom, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN
Theodore J. and Mary E. Trumble Professorship in Aging Research

Thomas A. Mackey, Ph.D., R.N., FNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP
PARTNERS Endowed Professorship in Nursing

Joanne V. Hickey, Ph.D., R.N., ACNP-BC, FAAN, FCCM
Patricia L. Starck/PARTNERS Professorship in Nursing

Nancy H. Busen, Ph.D., FNP-BC, APRN
Margaret A. Barnett/PARTNERS Professorship in Nursing

Joan C. Engebretson, Dr.PH., R.N., AHN-CB
Judy Fred Endowed Professorship in Nursing

Cathy L. Rozmus, D.S.N., R.N.
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Ruppert Named 2012 FAAN

Susan D. Ruppert, Ph.D., R.N., professor of clinical nursing in the Department of Acute and Continuing Care at the UTHealth School of Nursing, was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) with a 2012 class of 176 of the nation's top nurse researchers, policymakers, scholars, executives, educators and practitioners.

"We are very proud that Dr. Ruppert was one of eight inductees from University of Texas System institutions among this year's fellows," said School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N. "Only the most distinguished nurse leaders who have made significant contributions to the field and whose careers influence health policies and better health for all are eligible to use the credentials 'FAAN.' These criteria certainly describe Dr. Susan Ruppert and her achievements."

Ruppert has a faculty practice as a nurse practitioner at the new UT Physicians Cinco Ranch Clinic. "This will be an excellent model of interprofessional care, and she sets the pace for what we hope will be others to come," said Dean Starck.

Twelve other current faculty members of the UTHealth School of Nursing are FAAN-designated.





In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the U.S. Postal Service "Nursing Stamp," PARTNERS past chairs were each presented with a commemorative framed facsimile.

Pictured are: (BACK ROW, left-right): Nancy Willerson, 1999-2000; Mary Martha Stinnett, 2002-03; Kay English, 2003-04; Maria Pappas, 2005-06; Dorothy Nickelson, 2006-07; Suzie Conway, 2007-08; Bette Thomas, 2008-09; Sheri Henriksen, 2009-10; and (FRONT ROW, left-right): Kathy Redden, 1998-99; Dean Patricia L. Starck; Leslie Bowlin Bennett, 2010-11.

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Dean, School of Nursing and
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The University of Texas Health Science Center
at Houston

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Project Management:

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December 2012



**The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston**

School of Nursing

6901 Bertner Avenue
Houston, Texas 77030
development@uth.tmc.edu

Located in the Texas Medical Center

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